

6. The method according to Claim 2, wherein said aromatic compound is one or more aromatic aldehydes selected from the group consisting of cinnamic aldehyde, alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde and coniferyl aldehyde.

5 7. The method according to Claim 6, wherein said aromatic aldehyde is microencapsulated in a polymer.

8. The method according to Claim 7, wherein said polymer is beeswax or carnauba wax.

9. The method according to Claim 2, wherein said agent comprises a balsam.

10 10. The method according to Claim 9, wherein said balsam is derived from a *Liquidambar* tree.

11. The method according to Claim 10, wherein said *Liquidambar* tree is *Liquidambar orientalis Miller* or *Liquidambar syriaciflora*.

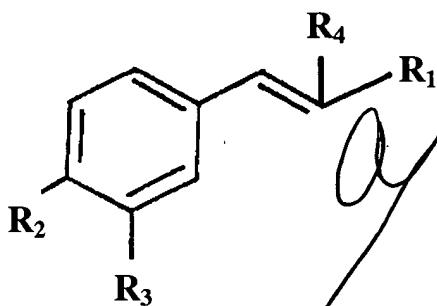
12. The method according to Claim 9, wherein said agent further comprises one or both of cinnamic aldehyde and alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde.

13. A method for controlling growth of pathological organisms on a plant whereby the plant surface is provided with a nonphytotoxic composition comprising a balsam.

14. The method according to Claim 13, wherein said pathological organisms are aphids.

15 15. The method according to Claim 13 or 14, wherein said composition comprises a surfactant.

16. The method according to any one of Claims 13-15, wherein said composition further comprises one or more aromatic aldehydes having the formula



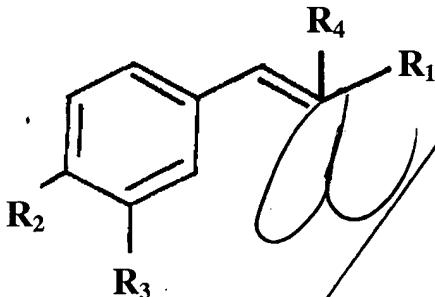
20 wherein R₁ represents -CHO, R₂ represents -H, -OH or an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and R₃ represents -H, a methoxy group or organic substituent containing

from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and R₄ represents -H, or an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms.

17. The method according to Claim 16, wherein said aromatic aldehyde is selected from the group consisting of cinnamic aldehyde, alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde and coniferyl aldehyde.

5 18. A composition comprising a balsam in a formulation which is nonphytotoxic to plants, wherein the concentration of said balsam is sufficient to provide a mean disease control of about 70%.

10 19. The composition according to Claim 18, wherein said composition further comprises one or more aromatic aldehydes having the formula:



15 wherein R₁ represents -CHO, R₂ represents -H, -OH or an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and R₃ represents -H, a methoxy group or organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and R₄ represents -H, or an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms.

20 20. The composition according to Claim 19, wherein said aromatic aldehydes is selected from the group consisting of cinnamic aldehyde, alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde and coniferyl aldehyde.

21. The composition according to Claim 16, wherein said formulation is an emulsion.

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